

REMARKS

The claims in the application remain 34-66.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

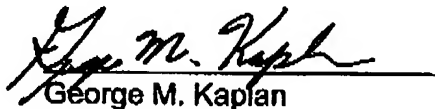
The independent claims have been amended to delete the % sign.

Clarification of the etherification degree has been made as requested at the bottom of page 2 of the previous Office Action. More particularly, the degree of substitution of the glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is now correctly recited as 0.5- less than 1.0. Support for this correction is quite apparent throughout the present application, e.g, in the test example 1 prepared on pages 8-10 of the present application and presented in accompanying Table 1.

Accordingly, it is again respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted to discuss the present application.

Early favorable action is again earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
DILWORTH & BARRESE

  
George M. Kaplan  
Reg. No. 28,375  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

DILWORTH & BARRESE  
333 Earle Ovington Blvd.  
Uniondal , NY 11553  
(516) 228-8484

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34. (Currently Amended) A soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, wherein at least one coagulation protein is imparted to at least one natural or regenerated cellulose fiber that has been carboxymethylated to an extent such that degree of substitution of the glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5–less than 1.0 %.

53. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, comprising the steps of:

treating natural or regenerated cellulose fiber with an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution,

reacting the thus-treated fibers with a monochloro acetic acid solution for carboxymethylation to an extent such that degree of substitution of hydroxyl groups of glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5 to less than 1.0 %,

subsequently refining the fibers and then imparting three coagulation proteins which are fibrinogen, thrombin and coagulation factor XIII by spraying, and

then drying.

56. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, comprising the steps of:

- treating natural or regenerated cellulose fiber with an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution,
- reacting the thus-treated fibers with a monochloro acetic acid solution for carboxymethylation to an extent such that degree of substitution of hydroxyl groups of glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5 to less than 1.0 %,
- subsequently refining the fibers and then imparting three coagulation proteins which are fibrinogen, thrombin and coagulation factor XIII by chemical bonding, and
- then drying.

**DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

PETER G. DILWORTH  
ROCCO S. BARRESE  
PAUL J. FARRELLOF COUNSEL  
ANN R. FOKALSKY333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD  
UNIONDALE, NEW YORK 11553  
TELEPHONE: (516) 228-8484  
FACSIMILE: (516) 228-8516  
e-mail: [iplaw@dilworthbarrese.com](mailto:iplaw@dilworthbarrese.com)ADRIAN T. CALDERONE  
GEORGE M. KAPLAN  
MICHAEL A. SCATURRO  
DANIEL E. TIERNEY  
MICHAEL J. MUSELLA  
JAKSHA C. TOMIC  
WENDY A. GREENSEICH  
MICHAEL E. CARMENMICHAEL R. BREW  
HYUN JONG PARK  
DOUGLAS M. OWENS III  
MICHAEL J. PORCO  
HAROLD G. FURLOW\*  
JOHN F. GALLAGHER

\*ADMITTED IN CT ONLY

REGISTERED PATENT AGENT  
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